

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2003

VIA AIR POUCH

RYBAT
PBSUCCESS

DISPATCH NO. 1-429

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : LINCOLN

DATE 9 February 1954

FROM : []

INFO: CHIEF, WHD
CHIEF OF STATION, GUAT

SUBJECT: General - Operational Intelligence
Specific- Situation in WSBURNT According to Source GUAT 044.

REF: []-402, para 5, GUAT 044.

1. Source stated 4 Feb 54 he was ordered to depart WSBURNT 2 Feb 54 with no reason advanced and informed of the necessity for departure by two Security Policemen. Hefurther stated:
 - a. QKFLOWAGE in WSBURNT suggested he write nothing adverse about WSBURNT and perhaps they could secure permission for his return; and,
 - b. Even if such permission was granted, he would not return since Government "goon squads" were now so bold and numerous he would be certainly molested by them.
2. Source gave as his opinion that:
 - a. Prevailing popular WSBURNT view is that John H. CALLEGARIS, himself, furnished the WSBURNT Government data for the white paper. He explained in the abortive airfield ammunition dump plot of 1951, led by CALLEGARIS, all participants except him were shot in the back by machine gun fire. He was incarcerated in a penitentiary from which he escaped by means of a tunnel. Source examined at the time the tunnel and says it was large enough for a man to stand erect in and it was commonly accepted he must have received some unexplained official assistance in the escape;
 - b. CALLEGARIS has since that time not been too greatly trusted nor held in high regard by the opposition to the present WSBURNT regime;
 - c. On the night of 3 Feb 54 Source dined with General Miguel YDIGARAS Fuentes in San Salvador and YDIGARAS stated, when queried as to substance of para 2a, he did not trust CALLEGARIS and it could well be true. YDIGARAS further stated to Source he often wondered precisely how CALLEGARIS escaped since he had never been able to ascertain from whom the assistance came.
3. In relation to general conditions, Source stated that;
 - a. Guatemala City is currently crowded with foreign exiles who are mainly /malcontents and on/

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- b. The most disgusted group is composed of Air Force pilots who are usually assessed as professionally proficient but disgusted they are denied gasoline, aircraft, and parts. They are well-aware why such items are wanting.
- c. The Army group has been severely weakened by officers who are indebted and transferred to G-2 with extra pay. This pay is shortly denied them thereafter unless they make weekly informant reports on brother officers. As a result morale is at a low ebb and no one is quite sure of the integrity of his confidants.
- d. The University student group has insolvent students who are paid approximately \$75.00 per month as informants of the Security Police. Their reporting is not confined to students and student activity. They undertake night assignments.
- e. The Guatemalan Branch of the American 20/30 Club is most dangerous civic society with leftish membership. They are heard to make statements on the "this isn't too bad" basis and without question are inclined to play along with the Party in power for personal prerogatives and profit.
- f. If a fair election were held as of this time ARBENZ would only receive approximately 10% of the literate vote but win a substantial majority from illiterate campesinos.

It is noted Source is evaluated as a B Source of GUAT 044. Since he will now base locally it is requested this Station be informed of his precise status so his services may be efficiently exploited.

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